

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5314

UNCLAS CANBERRA 1744

FOR EA/ANP LEO MOSER FROM CHARGE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OTRA, EGEN, AS

SUBJECT: MILTON FRIEDMAN VISIT TO AUSTRALIA

REF: CANBERRA 1615

1. PRINCIPAL OFFICERS CONFERENCE IS NOW FIRM FOR APRIL 8 AND 9. COULD YOU PLEASE CONTACT PROF. FRIEDMAN TO SEE IF HE WILL BE IN CANBERRA AT THAT TIME AND COULD SPEND AN HOUR WITH PRINCIPAL OFFICERS AND SENIOR STAFF TO DISCUSS DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS. IN MY LETTER OF FEB 19 (REFTEL) TO WHICH FRIEDMAN HAS NOT REPLIED I EXTENDED TENTATIVE INVITATION ON AMBASSADOR'S BEHALF FOR PROFESSOR TO STAY AT RESIDENCE. SINCE AMBASSADOR WILL BE ABSORBED WITH CONFERENCE AND SOME PRINCIPAL OFFICERS WILL BE STAYING AT RESIDENCE, THIS WOULD NOT NOT APPEAR PRACTICAL, AT LEAST NIGHTS OF APRIL 7, 8 AND 9.

2. SUGGEST YOU CONFER WITH AMBASSADOR GREEN WHO MAY WISH TO CALL FRIEDMAN HIMSELF. FRIEDMAN WILL BE SOMETHING OF A CELEBRITY IN AUSTRALIA DUE TO HIS PROMINENCE AS MONETARY THEORIST AND HIS CONTROVERSIAL VIEWS ON INFLATION. IF FRIEDMAN'S VISIT HERE DOES NOT COINCIDE WITH PRINCIPAL OFFICERS, I EXPECT AMBASSADOR MAY WANT TO ARRANGE A LUNCHEON TO INCLUDE ECONOMIC PLANNERS OF GOVERNMENT AND OPPOSITION.
HARROP

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